

23. (Not Amended) An image forming apparatus according to claim 18,
wherein said heat conducting member has a thermal conductivity larger than said envelope.

24. (Not Amended) An image forming apparatus according to claim 19,
wherein said heat conducting member has a thermal conductivity larger than said envelope.

25. (Not Amended) An image forming apparatus according to claim 20,
wherein said heat conducting member has a thermal conductivity larger than said envelope.

REMARKS

Claims 9-25 are presented for consideration, with Claims 9 and 10 being independent.

The independent claims have been amended to further distinguish Applicant's invention from the cited art.

The amendments to the claims were not presented earlier as it was believed that the previously presented claims would be found allowable. This Amendment does not add any additional claims. Moreover, the Examiner's familiarity with the subject matter of the present application will allow an appreciation of the significance of the amendments herein without undue expenditure of time and effort. Finally, the Amendment does not raise new issues requiring further consideration or search. Accordingly, it is believed that entry of the Amendment is appropriate.

Claims 9-12 and 21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Boudreau '934. In addition, Claims 13-20 and 22-25 were rejected under 35

U.S.C. §103 as allegedly being obvious over Boudreau in combination with Matsuda '217.

These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Applicant's invention as set forth in Claim 9 relates to an image forming apparatus comprised of an envelope including first and second substrates disposed to form a clearance therebetween, image forming means disposed between the first and second substrates within the envelope, and a heat insulating member. As amended, Claim 9 recites that the heat insulating member suppresses thermal leakage and is disposed on an outer surface of the envelope, including surfaces of the first and second substrates except for a surface region of the image forming means on at least one of the first and second substrates.

Claim 10 relates to an image forming apparatus that includes an envelope, image forming means and a heat insulating member as set forth in Claim 9. Claim 10 has been amended to recite that the heat insulating member suppresses thermal leaking (as in Claim 9) and is disposed on an outer surface of the envelope, including surfaces of the first and second substrates except for a surface region of the image forming means on both of the first and second substrates.

In accordance with Applicant's claimed invention, an image forming apparatus is capable of suppressing thermal leakage from an outer surface of the envelope.

Boudreau relates to a molded video display screen bezel for a video display device, such as a CRT. As shown in Figure 3, a bezel 20 is molded to fit a rounded surface 22 of the CRT.

The Office Action reads Boudreau to include a front substrate 16 and a conical rear substrate 24 of the CRT. It is respectfully submitted, however, that element 16 identifies the display screen itself of the CRT, and element 24 identifies a rearwardly extending frusto-conical portion of a glass envelope. These elements do not constitute substrates. Moreover, the bezel in Boudreau does not serve as a heat insulating member for suppressing a thermal leakage. The bezel itself is made of a polyurethane-type plastic material in a low pressure molding process, and should not be considered a heat insulator.

Accordingly, it is submitted that Boudreau fails to teach several features of Applicant's claimed invention, and thus reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. §102 is respectfully requested.

Matsuda relates to a cathode ray tube and was cited for its teaching of antistatic film on the CRT. Matsuda fails, however, to compensate for the deficiencies in Boudreau as discussed above. Accordingly, without conceding the propriety of combining Boudreau and Matsuda in the manner proposed in the Office Action, such a combination still fails to teach or suggest Applicant's claimed invention. Therefore, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. §103 is respectfully requested.

Accordingly, it is submitted that Applicant's invention as set forth in independent Claims 9 and 10 is patentable over the cited art. In addition, dependent Claims 11-25 set forth additional features of Applicant's invention. Independent consideration of the dependent claims is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and allowance of this application is deemed to be in order and such action is respectfully requested.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C.
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below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE TO CLAIMS

9. (Amended) An image forming apparatus comprising:

an envelope including first and second substrates disposed to form a clearance therebetween;

image forming means disposed between said first and second substrates within said envelop, said image forming means including an electron emitting device disposed on said first substrate and an image forming member disposed on said second substrate, said image forming member forming an image responsive to an irradiation with an electron emitted from said electron emitting device; and

a heat insulating member for suppressing a thermal leakage, said member disposed on an outer surface of [at least one] said envelope, including surfaces of said first and second substrates except for a surface region [on] of said image forming means on at least one of said first and second substrates.

10. (Amended) An image forming apparatus comprising:

an envelope including first and second substrates disposed to form a clearance therebetween;

image forming means disposed between said first and second substrates within said envelope, said image forming means including an electron emitting device disposed on said first substrate and an image forming member disposed on said second substrate, said

image forming member forming an image responsive to an irradiation with an electron emitted from said electron emitting device; and

a heat insulating member for suppressing a thermal leakage, said member disposed on an outer surface of [both] said envelope, including surfaces of said first and second substrates except for a surface region [on] of said image forming means on both of said first and second substrates.